Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-25 SCCT-02 ARA-16

R 190900Z APR 74 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY TOKYO INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 4607

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ELAB, RP, TH

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SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ATTACK ON AAFLI ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND

BEGIN SUMMARY: JOHNNYBTAN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF WCL'S ASIA BRANCH, HAS REQUESTED INFORMATION ON ONE DAVID BOGGETT. LATTER APPARENTLY INVOLVED WITH YOUTH AND LABOR ACTIVISTS IN BANGKOK AND IS SEEKING DISCREDIT AAFLI. END SUMMARY.

1. JUAN C. "JOHNNY" TAN, PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION OF FREE WORKERS (FFW) AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF WCL'S MANILA-BASED ASIAN BRANCH BATU (BROTHERHOOD OF ASIAN TRADE UNIONISTS), HAS APPROACHED LABATT FOR ASSISTANCE SECURING INFORMATION CONCERNING BRITISH SUBJECT NAMED DAVID BOGGETT. ACCORDING TO TAN, SUBJECT IS NORMALLY HEADQUARTERS IN JAPAN WHERE HE IS CONNECTED WITH A MONTHLY MAGAZINE CALLED "RONIN". CURRENTLY, HOWEVER, BOGGETT IS WORKING WITH ACTIVIST YOUTH AND LABOR GROUPS IN BANGKOK (ADDRESS: C/O THANASAK, APRTMENT 414, 178 SURIWONG ROAD, BANGKOK).

2. DURING RECENT STOP IN BANGKOK, TAN SECURED TEXT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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LETTER FROM BOGGETT ADDRESSED TO THE EDITORS, NACLA,

BOX 226, BERKELEY, CA 94701 AND BOX 57, CATHEDRAL STA., NY 10025. COPIES OF LETTER BEING FORWARDED ADDRESSES BY AIR POUCH. REFERRING TO AAFLI APPEARANCE ON SCENE, BOGGETT LETTER STATES THAI ACTIVISTS CONCERNED FOR IT WIDELY BELIEVED THAT LATIN AMERICAN VERSION OF AAFLI (PRESUMABLY A REFERENCE TO AIFLD) MATERIALLY AIDED CHILEAN MILITARY IN THEIR COUP AGAINST ALLENDE. BOGGETT ASKS NACLA (ACRONYN NOT IDENTIFIED) OR GROUPS ASSOCIATED WITH NACLA FOR SOME INFORMATION AND CONCRETE DETAILS ON CHILE CONNECTION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE "IN ORDER TO TRANSLATE INTO THAI AND GET IT PUBLISHED HERE". HE COMPLAINS THAT "SOME BOURGEOIS INTELLECTUALS" IN BANGKOK UNIVERSITIES ARE ALREADY SUPPORTING THE AAFLI WORKERS' EDUCATION PROGRAM.

- 3. INASMUCH AS TAN IS FRIENDLY TO AAFLI, HE WANTED EMBASSY TO BE AWARE OF SITUAION. HE IS ALSO ANXIOUS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BOGGETT FOR LATTER HAS INVITED SOME OF HIS WCL PEOPLE IN BANGKOK TO ATTEND SOME KIND OF YOUTH CONFERENCE IN TOKYO THIS SUMMER. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO SOONEST.
- 4. LABATT HAS INFORMED AAFLI REGIONAL DIRECTOR GOODWYN OF ABOVE. REQUEST BANGKOK ADVISE LYNN MCDONALD AND DEPT. INFORM PALADINO. GOODWYN BELIEVES THERE MAY BE CONNECTION BETWEEN BOGGETT ACTIVIITIES AND APRIL 13 14 PRESS STORIES IN BANGKOK ATTEMPTING LINK CIA WITH AFL-CIO'S INTERNATIONAL LABOR WORK. PURNELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR OBJECTIVES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 19 APR 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MANII A04607

Document Number: 1974MANILA04607 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740091-0846

From: MANILA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740430/aaaabaad.tel

Line Count: 90

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 30 JUL 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBLE ATTACK ON AAFLI ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND BEGIN SUMMARY: JOHNNYBTAN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF WCL'S

TAGS: ELAB, RP, TH, AAFLI, (BOGGETT, DAVID)
To: BANGKOK TOKYO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005